

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USBERL 01424 01 OF 03 161214Z
ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7038
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 3 USBERLIN 1424

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EXDIS - DEPT FOR EUR ONLY

E O 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)
SUBJ: POSSIBLE QUESTIONS AND SUGGESTED ANSWERS FOR THE PRESIDENTS'S
TOWN MEETING IN BERLIN (PART I)

REF: STATE 147755

1. WE WOULD EXPECT THE PRESIDENT TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS IN
FOUR BASIC AREAS: 1. BROADER WORLD POLICY QUESTIONS
EXCLUDING GERMANY, 2. QUESTIONS OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS
INCLUDING BERLIN AND GERMANY, 3. BERLIN ISSUES WHICH
PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE LIVES OF BERLINERS, AND
WHICH INVOLVE THE UNITED STATES AS AN OCCUPYING/PROTECTING
POWER, AND 4. PURELY LOCAL ISSUES WHICH ESSENTIALLY
CONCERN ONLY GERMAN AUTHORITIES, NOT THE ALLIES BUT WHICH
BERLINERS MAY TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY OF RAISING.

2. WE ASSUME THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE PREPARING QUESTIONS
AND ANSWERS IN CATEGORY ONE AND THAT EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT
WILL PROVIDE MATERIALS FOR CATEGORY TWO. AS INSTRUCTED
REFTEL, WE HAVE CONFINED OURSELVES TO MATERIALS
RELATING TO BERLIN QUESTIONS IN CATEGORY TWO AND TO ISSUES
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PAGE 02 USBERL 01424 01 OF 03 161214Z

WHICH MAY ARISE IN CATEGORY THREE. IN GENERAL, WE HAVE
NOT RPT NOT PREPARED MATERIAL FOR CATEGORY FOUR FOR THESE
REASONS: (A) QUESTIONER MAY RAISE ANY NUMBER OF VERY
LOCAL ISSUES WHICH ARE IMPOSSIBLE TO FORESEE, AND (B)
AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE, THE ALLIES INVOLVEMENT
IN OR COMMENT ON THOSE LOCAL BERLIN MATTERS WHICH ARE
ESSENTIALLY GERMAN MATTERS (I.E., MATTERS OVER WHICH

THE ALLIES DO NOT NORMALLY EXERCISE THEIR SUPREME AUTHORITY).

3. IN AN EFFORT TO ASSIST THE PRESIDENT IN PREPARING FOR THE TWO MEETING, WE HAVE ALSO SUBMITTED A GLOSSARY OF "TERMS OF ART" COMMONLY USED IN BERLIN WHICH ARE IMPORTANT BECAUSE OF THE COMPLICATED POLITICAL AND LEGAL SITUATION WHICH HAS DEVELOPED HERE OVER THE PAST 30 YEARS.

4. BERLIN TERMINOLOGY AND IMPORTANT DETAILS TO BE KEPT IN MIND DURING THE TOWN MEETING

A. BERLIN. THE FOUR SECTORS OF BERLIN ARE JOINTLY REFERRED TO AS GREATER BERLIN (GROSS BERLIN). THE SOVIETS AND GDR CLAIM THAT GREATER BERLIN CEASED TO EXIST IN 1948 WHEN THE SOVIETS PULLED OUT OF THE AK AND THAT TODAY (A) ONLY "WESTBERLIN" REMAINS UNDER FOUR POWER OCCUPATION AND (B) THERE EXISTS A CITY WHICH IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE GDR KNOWN AS "BERLIN, CAPITAL OF THE GDR." THE ALLIES USUALLY REFER TO THE LATTER AS THE "EASTERN SECTOR," OR "EAST BERLIN," AND CONTEND THAT GREATER BERLIN CONTINUES TO EXIST AS A CITY OF FOUR SECTORS ALL OF WHICH ARE UNDER JOINT OCCUPATION BY THE FOUR POWERS. THE MOST TECHNICALLY CORRECT MANNER IN WHICH TO REFER TO WEST BERLIN IS AS CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 USBERL 01424 01 OF 03 161214Z

"THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN"; HOWEVER "BERLIN (WEST)", "WEST BERLIN", OR SIMPLY "BERLIN" ARE ALSO USED. THE LATER TWO ARE PREFERRED BY BERLINERS THEMSELVES.

B. THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT OF 1971 (QA). THIS AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE U.S., FRANCE, AND THE U.K. AND THE USSR CONTRIBUTED IMMENSELY TO THE RELAXATION OF TENSIONS IN BERLIN AND EUROPE. IT COVERS ALL BERLIN, NOT JUST WEST BERLIN AS THE SOVIETS CLAIM.

C. THE FOUR POWERS. THIS MEANS THE U.S., FRANCE, THE U.K., AND THE USSR, THE FOUR OCCUPYING POWERS OF GREATER BERLIN.

D. THE ALLIES (OR THE WESTERN ALLIES). THIS MEANS (TODAY) THE U.S., U.K., AND FRANCE. DURING WORLD WAR II, THE USSR WAS ALSO INCLUDED IN THE TERM "ALLIES"; HOWEVER, SINCE THE DIVISION OF BERLIN AND GERMANY AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COLD WAR, THE TERM "ALLIES" HAS COME TO MEAN ONLY THE THREE WESTERN POWERS.

E. SECTOR-SECTOR LINE. THIS IS THE LINE OF DEMARCATION BETWEEN THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN AND THE SOVIET SECTOR ALONG WHICH THE WALL WAS CONSTRUCTED IN 1961. IT IS HERE THE PRESIDENT WILL VIEW THE WALL. IN KEEPING WITH THEIR PHILOSOPHY THE SOVIETS AND EAST GERMANS

REFER TO THIS LINE AS AN INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE
SEPARATE POLITICAL BODIES OF "WESTBERLIN" AND THE GDR.

F. U.S. MISSION BERLIN. THE U.S. REPRESENTATION
IN WEST BERLIN IS KNOWN AS THE "U.S. MISSION BERLIN,"
ALTHOUGH IT IS IN FACT AN OCCUPATION GOVERNMENT.

G. U.S. EMBASSY TO THE GDR. THE U.S. EMBASSY TO
REPEAT TO THE GDR IS LOCATED IN EAST BERLIN (OR THE
SOVIET SECTOR). BRITISH AND FRENCH EMBASSIES TO THE
GDR ARE ALSO LOCATED IN EAST BERLIN. THE ALLIES
REFER TO THEIR EMBASSIES IN EAST BERLIN AS "TO" THE
GDR TO INDICATE THAT THEY DO NOT ACCEPT EAST BERLIN
AS HAVING THE SAME STATUS AS THE GDR.

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PAGE 01 USBERL 01424 02 OF 03 161229Z
ACTION SS-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 3 USBERLIN 1424

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HM. ALLIED KOMMANDATURA (AK). THIS IS THE SUPREME
AUTHORITY FOR ALL FOUR SECTORS OF BERLIN (I.E. INCLUDING
THE SOVIET SECTOR). IT SHOULD BE COMPOSED OF THE
COMMANDANTS AND STAFFS OF THE FOUR POWERS. HOWEVER,
SINCE THE SOVIET PULLOUT IN 1948, THE AK HAS BEEN
COMPOSED OF THE THREE WESTERN COMMANDANTS AND THEIR
STAFFS. TECHNICALLY THE DOOR REMAINS OPEN FOR THE
SOVIETS TO RETURN. DUE TO SOVIET OBSTRUCTIONISM SINCE 1948, THE
AK HAS ONLY BEEN ABLE TO GIVE EFFECT TO ITS DECISIONS IN THE
WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN.

I. NATO. U.S. AND OTHER ALLIED TROOPS IN
BERLIN ARE NOT PART OF THE NATO COMMITMENT.

5. SUGGESTED Q'S AND A'S ARE SUBMITTED IN THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS.

6. THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT (QA) OF 1971

Q. WHAT IS YOUR VIEW OF THE QA?

A: THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT ON BERLIN CONCLUDED IN 1971 AND 1972 IS A GOOD AGREEMENT WHICH HAS BENEFITTED THE INHABITANTS OF BERLIN IN SEVERAL DIFFERENT RESPECTS. WE STAND BEHIND ITS FULL IMPLEMENTATION AND ITS STRICT OBSERVANCE. LIKE MOST MAJOR INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 USBERL 01424 02 OF 03 161229Z

IT WAS A COMPROMISE AND THEREFORE CANNOT BE VIEWED AS PERFECT FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW BUT I AM MOST GRATIFIED THAT IT HAS SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED ACCESS TO AND FROM YOUR CITY.

7. SOVIET ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING THE QA

Q: WHY HAVE THERE BEEN CONSTANT SOVIET CHARGES OF VIOLATION OF THE QA?

A: I DO NOT KNOW OF ANY CONSCIOUS VIOLATIONS OF THE QA BY THE WESTERN SIDE. I DO CONSIDER REPEATED GDR MILITARY ACTIVITY IN EAST BERLIN AS A VIOLATION OF IT. WE REGRET THAT THE SOVIETS SEEM OPPOSED TO PERMITTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF TIES BETWEEN BERLIN AND THE FRG, EVEN THOSE TIES WHICH ARE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED IN THE QA. IN THE ALLIED REPLIES TO SUCH SOVIET PROTESTS WE HAVE MADE CLEAR WHAT WHILE BERLIN IS NOT A CONSTITUENT PART OF THE FRG, WE NONETHELESS FAVOR AND INTEND TO ALLOW FULL DEVELOPMENT OF ALL THE PERMISSIBLE TIES BETWEEN THIS CITY AND THE FRG.

8. BERLIN AS A LAND OF THE FRG.

Q. MRM PRESIDENT, IS IT NOT IN THE BEST INTEREST OF BERLIN FOR THE ALLIES TO RECOGNIZE THAT IT IS A LAND (STATE) OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY?

A. THE POSITION OF THE ALLIES ON THIS QUESTION REMAINS CLEAR. IT IS STATED IN THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT. BERLIN CONTINUES NOT TO BE A CONSTITUENT PART OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY; IT IS THEREFORE NOT A LAND OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY.

9. HUMAN RIGHTS

Q. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE GERMAN LAW FORBIDDING THE EMPLOYMENT OF SOME PEOPLE IN GOVERNMENT BECAUSE OF THEIR POLITICAL BELIEFS (BERUFSVERBOT)?

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PAGE 03 USBERL 01424 02 OF 03 161229Z

A. I DO NOT FEEL I SHOULD COMMENT ON A DECISION TAKEN BY THE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GERMAN PEOPLE.

Q. WHAT ARE YOU DOING ABOUT EAST GERMAN VIOLATIONS OF

HUMAN RIGHTS?

A. OF COURSE, I AM CONCERNED ABOUT VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, JUST AS I AM ABOUT ALL SUCH VIOLATIONS, INCLUDING THOSE IN MY OWN COUNTRY. I BELIEVE AS YOU KNOW THAT HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE RESPECT FOR THE INDIVIDUAL MUST BE THE BASIS FOR A DECENT SOCIETY. I CAN SAY I AM GRATIFIED AT THE RECENT HELP OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GDR IN BRINGING TOGETHER A NUMBER OF AMERICAN FAMILIES.

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PAGE 01 USBERL 01424 03 OF 03 161321Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 3 OF 3 USBERLIN 1424

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10. WALL

Q. WHY DOES NOT THE UNITED STATES DO SOMETHING TO REMOVE THE WALL WHICH DIVIDES MY CITY?...THE WALL WHICH DIVIDES MY FAMILY?

A. I HAVE JUST COME FROM THE BERLIN WALL. THE FEW MINUTES THAT I SPENT THERE WERE THE MOST DISCOURAGING MOMENTS I HAVE HAD IN EUROPE. I AM DISCOURAGED AND DEPRESSED BECAUSE OF THE MANY WALLS BUILT IN THE COURSE OF HISTORY, MOST WERE BUILT TO KEEP THE ENEMY OUT; THIS ONE HAS BEEN BUILT TO KEEP THE PEOPLE IN. IT IS A DIRECT VIOLATION OF THE NATURAL RIGHT OF PEOPLE TO TRAVEL, AND SEE THEIR RELATIVES, TO LEAVE THEIR OWN COUNTRY. I SINCERELY EXPECT THAT THE WALL WILL COME DOWN IN DUE COURSE, ALTHOUGH I CANNOT PREDICT WHEN. I AM GRATIFIED AT LEAST FOR WEST BERLINERS TO VISIT THEIR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES IN EAST BERLIN AND THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC.

11. SECURITY OF THE CITY

Q. WILL THE UNITED STATES CONTINUE TO HONOR ITS COMMIT-

MENT TO THE SECURITY OF BERLIN? EVEN AT THE RISK OF A
WAR IN EUROPE? EVEN AT THE RISK OF NUCLEAR CONFLICT?

A. I AM IN BERLIN TO REAFFIRM THE UNITED STATES'
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PAGE 02 USBERL 01424 03 OF 03 161321Z

COMMITMENT TO BERLIN.

THIRTY YEARS AGO THE U.S. TOGETHER WITH ITS
BRITISH AND FRENCH ALLIES, DEMONSTRATED THEIR COMMITMENT
TO PRESERVE THE FREEDOM OF THIS CITY BY MOUNTING
THE BERLIN AIRLIFT.

TODAY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND THE AMERICAN
PEOPLE REMAIN COMMITTED TO MAINTAINING THE SECURITY OF
BERLIN AND TO GUARANTEEING THAT IT WILL CONTINUE TO
DEVELOP AND FLURISH AS A FREE AND VITAL PART OF THE WEST.
IF THIS CITY IS EVERN AGAIN THREATENED, THE UNITED STATES
WILL STAND AT ITS SIDE JUST AS IT HAS FOR THESE PAST
THIRTY YEARS.

12. SOVIET FLAG TOUR (PATROL) BEHAVIOR IN THE WESTERN
SECTORS OF BERLIN

Q: WHY ARE SOVIET PATROLS PERMITTED IN WEST BERLIN?
WHY DO THE WESTERN POWERS TOLERATE BLATANT AND OUTRAGEIOUS
SOVIET PATROL INTERFERENCE WITH PUBLIC FUNCTIONS?

A: THE FOUR POWERS EARNED THE RIGHT TO BE IN BERLIN
BY DEFEATING THE THIRD REICH. THESE FOUR POWERS
AGREED TO GOVERN BERLIN JOINTLY. IT FOLLOWS THAT MEMBERS
OF THE FORCES OF THE FOUR POWERS HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE IN
ALL FOUR SECTORS OF THE CITY.

ANY ACTIONS WHICH VIOLATES BERLIN AND ALLIED LAW
IN EFFECT IN THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN WILL BE
TREATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THAT LAW. WE EXPECT THE
SOVIET AUTHORITIES WILL MAINTAIN THE DISCIPLINE OF THEIR
SOLDIERS IN WEST BERLIN, JUST AS WE DO WITH OUR FLAG TOURS
AND VISITORS IN EAST BERLIN.

Q. HAS THE UNITED STATES INCREASED THE NUNMBER OF
FLAG TOURS IT SENDS TO EAST BERLIN SINCE THE SOVIETS
INCREASED THEIR FLAG TOURS IN WEST BERLIN IN JULY 1977?

A. NO.
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PAGE 03 USBERL 01424 03 OF 03 161321Z

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